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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/672,935	09/26/2003	Takeshi Konno	HGM-115-A	9456

21828 7590 01/26/2005

CARRIER BLACKMAN AND ASSOCIATES
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NOVI, MI 48375

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, TAI T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2632

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/672,935

Applicant(s)

KONNO ET AL.

Examiner

Tai T. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 18-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-3,5-9 and 11-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 05/03/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 3, 5-6 and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka (US 2004/0113760).

Regarding claims 1 and 3, Tanaka discloses a theft-deterrent device (figure 5) for a vehicle, comprising:

a receiver (22) for receiving at least one lock/unlock position signal from a remote operation device (11, paragraphs 95-96);

a processor (34) for determining whether or not an ID included in the lock/unlock position matches a stored ID (paragraph 121);

an actuator (26) for driving a door to lock/unlock position (paragraph 98);

a theft detection unit (35) detecting movement and generating an alarm signal to a warning unit (33) when the receiver has not received an unlocking signal including an ID matching the stored ID (paragraph 122).

Tanaka discloses the instant claimed invention except for the specific lock mechanism for responding to the lock position signal when the IDs match to lock/unlock the vehicle. Since Tanaka discloses the actuator for driving the door to lock/unlock

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position, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to know that the lock mechanism is inherently included in the vehicle in order to response to a signal generated from the door lock actuator.

Regarding claims 5-6, Tanaka discloses the warning unit (33) separate from a vehicle horn and being energized in response to the theft detection signal (figure 3).

Regarding claim 14, refer to claim 1 and 3 above.

Regarding claims 15-16, refer to claims 5-6 above.

3. Claims 2-, 7-9, 11-13 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka (US 2004/0113760) in view of Konno (US 6,768,219).

Regarding claim 2, Tanaka discloses the instant claimed invention except for primary lock mechanism being engageable with a rotating shaft of a handlebar to lock the vehicle, wherein the module is situated near the rotating shaft of the handlebar. Konno teaches a vehicle lock operation device having a module (A) being situated near a handlebar (H) and a handlebar lock (Lh, col. 4, line 1 through col. 5, line15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the handlebar lock as taught by Konno in the system as disclosed by Tanaka for the purpose of locking the handlebar after the vehicle is turned of in order to prevent theft of the vehicle.

Regarding claim 7, Tanaka discloses the instant claimed invention except for a seat lock being locked/unlocked in coordination with locking/unlocking of the primary lock mechanism. Konno teach a seat lock mechanism (Ls) that being locked/unlocked

in coordination with locking/unlocking of the primary lock mechanism (1, figure 3; col. 4, lines 1-24).

Regarding claims 8-9, refer to claims 1-2 above.

Regarding claims 11-12, refer to claims 5-6 above.

Regarding claim 13, refer to claim 7 above.

Regarding claim 17, refer to claim 7 above.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 4 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
5. Claims 18-20 are allowed.

Conclusion

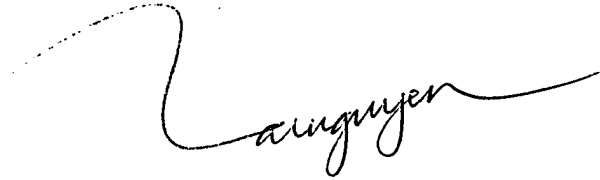
6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Togashi (US 5,828,317) and Yoshida et al. (US 5,124,565).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tai T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2961. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30am-5:00pm..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel J. Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tai T. Nguyen', with a stylized, flowing script.

Tai T. Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 2632

January 19, 2005